

# Rapid River News!

August 27, 2008

From L.R.B.O.I.



*(The following information comes from a weekly update supplied concerning the tribal government, local communities and issues that affect overall tribal business. The department or persons involved is shown at the end of each item. If the item is general in nature, PA will appear for Public Affairs)*

## (Natural Resource related items)

- Diseased birds have died of Type E botulism in Mason County, marking the 1st time the disease has been seen that far south on Lake Michigan's shore. The infected birds included ring-billed gulls and double-crested cormorants found dead in Ludington State Park in July 2008.

The state Department of Natural Resources said Friday [8 Aug 2008] that the bacteria and the toxin it produces are picked up by birds eating mussels and invasive round gobies that carry the bacteria. Birds also may be sickened by scavenging carcasses of birds or fish that have died from the disease. DNR officials say anyone along Lake Michigan who comes across dead water birds should make sure pets don't come in contact with them. Precautions can be found on the Emerging Diseases Web site.

- CORA Class. Seafood Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) certification training is scheduled for December 9th-11th at Bay Mills Community College. The course is open to all fishers and fish processors. CORA member tribal commercial fishers should check with their Natural Resources Department for further details. An announcement will also appear in the next Currents

## (Cultural related items)

- Michigan Indian Day Concert Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>! The Nokomis Learning Center has announced a Michigan Indian Day Concert at East Lansing's Hannah Community Center at 819 Abbott Road in East Lansing. Tickets are available at the door or by calling 517-349-5777
- Tribal Family Gathering. Mark your calendars now for September 10<sup>th</sup>, starting at 5:30 p.m. at the Community Center for a Tribal Family Gathering, 'Honor the Circle' sponsored by the LRBOI Family Services Department and their HHS Family Violence Awareness Grant.

## (General area items)

- The State/Tribe Tax Agreement Appendix A has been amended to include some of the eligible properties that have been acquired by the Tribe since the implementation of the tax agreement. The amended version can be found on the Michigan Department of Treasury website and on the Tax Office page of the Tribe's website.
- Gun Lake update. According to the AP, a Federal Appeals Court has issued a stay preventing the Gun Lake Band from moving forward on a casino in Allegan County. This could end up in front of the U.S. Supreme Court. More details in the Currents.
- Recovery in the Park. The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Recovery in the Park Family Day has been announced. Mark your calendars for September 4<sup>th</sup> from 3 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the First Street Beach (Rocket Park) in Manistee. For more info call Julie at 231.398.6632. Sponsored by Be-Da-Bin Behavioral Health.

## (Tribal Government-Department items)

- Council Meeting on 27<sup>th</sup>! The Tribal Council meeting originally scheduled for the 20<sup>th</sup> of August will be held on the 27<sup>th</sup> in the Dome Room. Normal times. The original meeting was not held because council lacked a quorum, 4 of the 9 county representatives are required and there were only 3 present.
- Election Board meeting! The next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 4th, 2008 at 7:00 pm at the Election Board Office. Future meetings will be announced at each regularly scheduled Election Board meeting.
- Health Department news (Jessica Burger)! Congrats to two of our Health Department family!:
  - CONGRATULATIONS TO CHRISTIAN KEQUAM-MERZ, BEDABIN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH FOR ACHIEVING HER PRACTICAL NURSING LICENSE! Christian worked

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*Government news you can use*

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diligently to be able to pass her classes and the State Board of Nursing examination; she is truly a model of what young Tribal members can become with a positive attitude, determination and hard work. I would like to personally thank the Ogema's office for his support of our department and Christian through this leg of her nursing education; it is an investment in the future of our Nation.

- o CONGRATULATIONS TO KAREN STAR CHIEF, CLINIC OPERATIONS FOR ACHIEVING HER CERTIFICATION IN BILLING/CODING! Karen passed her certification test and has been admitted to the American Academy of Professional Coders. As a certified coding specialist, Karen demonstrates expertise immediately recognized among reimbursement agencies as accurate and appropriate for third party reimbursement consideration. Karen exemplifies the success any Native person can realize with a little sweat equity; you represent Little Traverse Bay Band well!

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## (Emergency Management items)

- Special review of government buildings underway. The Tribal Emergency Planning Committee has made some major progress for ensuring the safety of the tribal property and personnel. Specialists are coming in to help develop Emergency Plans for the buildings and to train our staff. In addition, vendor badging systems are coming on line soon and the Dome Room door has received some new equipment.

(compiled by Office of Public Affairs)

If you have any specific questions, ideas or comments regarding this information, please address them to:

The Public Information Office, LRBOI, 375 River Street, Manistee, MI. 49660. 231-398-6840.

Or send them direct to [currentscomments@lrboi.com](mailto:currentscomments@lrboi.com).

Your comments will be forwarded to the right person at the tribal government within 24 hours.